

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/725,559

Examiner

G. Nagesh Rao

Applicant(s)

PLAMMER, ALFRED

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/15/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-15, 20-28, 30 and 31.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/857176.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Adam Treiber on 10/31/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Replace with --Apparatus for producing plastic panels with undercut--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 19 has been cancelled.

Claim 29 has been cancelled.

Claim 32 has been cancelled.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Replace with the following:

--An apparatus for the continuous and nondestructive production of plastic panels which are provided with undercut anchoring studs, web profiles or other forms of attachment (28) on one or both surfaces comprises a temperature-controlled chill roll (11), which has peripheral cooling bores (15) in the roll body (17). The roll body (17) is formed at the circumference as a polygon with flat supporting surfaces (25), against which the molding/demolding strips (13) are placed or from which they are lifted. The molding/demolding strips (13) are moved by means of piston/cylinder arrangements (16) and piston rods (18). The piston rods (18) move through transverse bores through the roll body (17)--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend to include the following in the first paragraph:

--This application is a DIV of 09/857,176 06/18/2001 PAT 6,908,580
which is a 371 of PCT/EP99/07904 10/19/1999--.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 8-15, 20-28, and 30-31 have been allowed over the prior art presented below.

Independent claim 8 states: "An apparatus for producing plastic panels which are provided on at least one side with at least one integral undercut attachment, wherein said apparatus comprises an extruder, a die, and at least one roll nip cooperates so that molten polymer can be fed through said die to said at least one roll nip, wherein at least one of said rolls of said roll nip is provided on the roll circumference with at least one mold which corresponds to said undercut attachment, wherein the at least one mold is provided in at least one molding/demolding strip, wherein said molding/demolding strip has a first non-raised position and a second raised position and wherein the molding/demolding strip is capable of assuming said second position to nondestructively release the at least one undercut attachment of the plastic panel after the at least one undercut attachment has at left the at least one roll nip."

The prior art fails to teach the nondestructively releasing of a molding/demolding strip with at least one integral undercut attachment via a first

non-raised position and a second raised position integrated along with the roll nip and die.

For example Murasaki (EP 0580073 A2) teaches a method and apparatus for manufacturing a material-backed engaging member for surface fastener. As shown in figures 1 and 2 there is an extruding nozzle that reads on as a type of extruder (1), a die wheel (2) coupled with a multiplicity of molding cavities (5), rear and front pressure rollers (8a and 8b) that communicate with said die and mold cavities, but no capability of forming the undercut via a first non-raised position and a second raised position.

Another example is Menzin (US Patent No. 3,758,657) teaches the use of molding/demolding strips arranged over the circumference of the one roll (Figures 7, 10, and 11), and once the attachments have formed, the strips are radially moved for the nondestructive release of the formed strip, but still lacks the teaching of nondestructively releasing of a molding/demolding strip with at least one integral undercut attachment via a first non-raised position and a second raised position integrated along with the roll nip and die.

Finally Reil (US Patent No. 4,196,035) teaches an apparatus for applying strips to coated web material. The apparatus is comprised of multiple pressure rollers that are used for the conveying of plastic strips and arranging of web

profiles over the plastic (Column 3 Lines 57-65) through the apparatus. The pressure rollers are controlled by a regulating device, where among the elements comprised includes a pneumatic device (Figure 1 Elements 40 and 49) for aiding in driving pressure roller (Figure 1 Element 47 Also see Column 9 Lines 8-15).

However the art fails to teach once again the nondestructively releasing of a molding/demolding strip with at least one integral undercut attachment via a first non-raised position and a second raised position integrated along with the roll nip and die. The pneumatic device of Reil 035 has no motivation to combine with Murasaki 073 and Menzin 657 as an ejector means to nondestructively release the material via a first non-raised position and a second raised position integrated along with the roll nip and die.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to G. Nagesh Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2946. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GNR

Joseph S. De/ Sole
11/5/05

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